VZCZCXRO4918 PP RUEHPA DE RUEHOS #0741 3171559 ZNY CCCCC ZZH P 131559Z NOV 07 FM AMCONSUL LAGOS TO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA PRIORITY 9344 RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0153 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9587 INFO RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

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STATE FOR AF/W, INR/AA, DS/IP/AF, DS/ICI/PII, DS/DSS/OSAC OSLO FOR HELENA SCHRADER DOE FOR GPERSON, CAROLYN GAY TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS, SRENENDER, DFIELDS COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS STATE PASS USTR FOR ASST USTR FLISER STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD STATE PASS OPIC FOR ZHAN AND MSTUCKART STATE PASS TDA FOR NCABOT STATE PASS EXIM FOR JRICHTER STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/13/2017 TAGS: <u>PGOV PREL ASEC PHUM NI</u>

SUBJECT: NIGER DELTA MILITANTS HIT QUA IBOE TERMINAL

Classified By: Acting Consul General Vicki Hutchinson for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

- 11. (C) Around 07:00 AM on November 12, six to seven militant boats were spotted shooting into the air offshore Exxon Mobil's Qua Iboe Terminal (QIT) in Akwa Ibom State. According to security sources, the military Joint Task Force (JTF) repelled the militants around 10:30 AM after a firefight which resulted in one naval officer being seriously injured. Exxon Mobil reported no casualties but said it would relocate spouses and children from their housing base in Eket, Akwa Ibom.
- 12. (C) At 1:00 PM six to seven boats passed Exxon Mobil's Noble Dunn Walker rig east of QIT. The militants were reportedly forced to continue past the rig because the tide was too low for them to navigate through this area. These boats were then reportedly seen headed north to the Calabar River Channel. One security representative with Addax believed the militants were based in Bayelsa State. Some security contacts speculated that Bayelsa-based Victor Ebikabowei, who is still active according to Chevron contacts, was responsible. HUTCHINSON